

# The Prairie Light Review

---

Volume 30 | Number 2

Article 12

---

4-1-2010

## As I Was Once With You

Valerie Tapp  
*College of DuPage*

Follow this and additional works at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr>

---

### Recommended Citation

Tapp, Valerie (2010) "As I Was Once With You," *The Prairie Light Review*: Vol. 30: No. 2, Article 12.  
Available at: <http://dc.cod.edu/plr/vol30/iss2/12>

This Selection is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at DigitalCommons@C.O.D.. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Prairie Light Review by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@C.O.D.. For more information, please contact [koteles@cod.edu](mailto:koteles@cod.edu).

## As I Was Once With You

Valerie Tapp

When I was with you  
you took me for granted,  
not knowing what you owed me  
until I stepped away from you.

When I was with you  
people stared as you entered a room  
with my arm around your shoulder.  
People watched you with envy  
and you did not understand  
why they hated you  
and were waiting

to see the day  
when you were jilted by me,  
after the sting of my abandonment  
shocked you down to your bones,  
after the rage of regret  
over wasted years was spent

your understanding has drowned you  
in the waters of old age.  
You remember me  
as the greatest love you ever had,  
I am the one that has left you wanting.

I hang on the shoulder  
of someone else,  
as you stare at us across  
the smokey bar room of life,  
the sweet drinks of ideals and high hopes  
no longer being brought to your table,

instead the bitter beer of reality  
and jaded views flow on your palate  
and you try to swallow the pride  
of knowing it was you  
who wasted your time with me.  
As I was once with you,  
I am now with someone else.  
I am youth.